

December 7, 2006

Update for AIDS Drug Assistance Program (9 AAC 6, Article 4)

The Department is amending the rules in Title 9, Chapter 6, Article 4, for the AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) to add definitions, clarify the application process and notification requirements, and address changes that have occurred in the program.

Two major changes to the program have occurred this year. Beginning in January 2006, elderly and disabled individuals who are eligible for enrollment in Medicare prescription drug plans are able to obtain prescription drugs through Medicare. Since ADAP is the payor of last resort for HIV-related prescription drugs for those enrolled in ADAP, the current rules are being amended to exclude those eligible to receive HIV-related prescription drugs through Medicare from enrolling in ADAP.

During 2006, the Department also began using a vendor pharmacy to distribute prescription drugs to individuals enrolled in ADAP. The current rules specify the requirements for the Department's distribution of drugs and are in conflict with this new drug distribution scheme.

To keep interested persons informed about the rulemaking, the Department has established a web page for the rulemaking through the Office of Administrative Rules. The web page will contain a copy of draft rules, periodic updates on the progress of the rulemaking, and other information that may be of interest. Stakeholders are asked to send any comments about the rulemaking to Ruthann Smejkal, Rules Analyst for the Department, by e-mail at smejkar@azdhs.gov, by phone at 602-364-3959, or by fax at 602-364-1150.